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FORM		First Named Inventor	Garr	Garrett Holmes, et al.					
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)			Art Unit	2832	2832 Lincoln D. Donovan				
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Affidavits/declaration(s)			Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Addr	ess	Statu	Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please dentify below):			
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Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)			Applicant believes no fee to be due for the attached filing, however, should						
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT									
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE polication No.: 10/034, 826

#6 Rections 7.6.6.03

PATENT

Filing Date:

December 28, 2001

Applicant:

Garrett Holmes, et al.

**Group Art Unit:** 

2832

Examiner:

Lincoln D. Donovan

Title:

VARIABLE BLEED SOLENOID.

Attorney Docket: DKT 00054A (BWI-00055)

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Office Action dated April 28, 2003, to which a timely one-month response is due by Wednesday, May 28, 2003. The Examiner asserted that the above-referenced patent application discloses the following inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-8, drawn to a valve assembly, classified in class 251, subclass 129.15;

Group II: Claims 9-16, drawn to a solenoid for a valve assembly, classified in class 335, subclass 256; and

Group III: Claims 13-22, drawn to a control circuit for a valve, classified in class 251, subclass 129.01.

The Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 to one of the allegedly patentably distinct groups of designs.

The Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement.

The Applicants contend that while the claims of the present invention may arguably be properly classified as proposed by the Examiner, the actual search required to be conducted by the Examiner with respect to any one particular group will, in all probability, entail searching in multiple classes and multiple subclasses that encompass, or at least overlap, the classes and subclasses identified by the Examiner. For example, the Examiner stated that Groups I and III are both classified in class 251. Therefore, the Applicants submit that the search required to concurrently examine all of the claims of the instant application will not be unduly burdensome.

The Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-8, with traverse, for prosecution on the merits.

The Applicants respectfully request consideration of the claims of the instant application and a favorable response is earnestly solicited. In the interests of expediting the prosecution of the instant application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the attorney of record by telephone in order to resolve any issues concerning patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

WARN, BURGESS & HOFFMANN, P.C.

Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By:

Philip Ř. Warn Reg. No. 32775

Dated: <u>5/28/03</u>

P.O. Box 70098 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 364-4300

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